

WASHINGTON, DC — On Thursday, March 12, 2009, the Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs will conduct an oversight hearing on whether U.S. money, guns, drug consumption, and drug precursors are fueling violence on the U.S.-Mexico border. Members will also explore the threats this violence poses to U.S. national security interests.

This hearing will feature top independent experts with extensive experience in Mexico and with border issues. While the U.S. is currently engaged in initiatives with Mexico aimed at strengthening existing law enforcement cooperation, intelligence sharing, and training (e.g., the MÃ©rida Initiative), this hearing asks the related question of what more the U.S. can do on our side of the border to help stop the increasing border violence.

**WITNESS LIST:**

Andrew Selee, Director, Woodrow Wilson Center Mexico Institute, which published the January 2009 report "The United States and Mexico: Towards a Strategic Partnership;"

Michael A. Braun, Managing Partner, Spectre Group International LLC, and former Drug Enforcement Administration Assistant Administrator / Chief of Operations; and

Tom Diaz, Senior Policy Analyst, Violence Policy Center, and author of “Making a Killing: the Business of Guns in America.”

To view a webcast of the hearing, click on the link below:

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